

**LEGISLATION IMPACTING ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ENACTED DURING THE
2006 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION**

BILL #	SPONSOR	TITLE	EXPLANATION	RIDE RESPONSIBILITIES
S - 2085 SUB A H - 6854	SENATOR GALLO REPRESENTATIVE SAVAGE	AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION- ESTABLISHMENT OF CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS	THIS ACT WOULD REQUIRE THAT IN THE CREATION OF CHARTER SCHOOLS, THE APPLICATION SUBMITTED TO THE COMMISSIONER AND THE LOCAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE PURSUANT TO THE CREATION OF SUCH A SCHOOL WOULD INCLUDE A DESCRIPTION OF A PLAN THAT WOULD INCLUDE MEASURABLE STUDENT ACADEMIC GOALS. THIS ACT WOULD TAKE EFFECT UPON PASSAGE.	RIDE WILL MAKE CERTAIN THAT IN THE CREATION OF CHARTER SCHOOLS, THE APPLICATION SUBMITTED TO THE COMMISSIONER WOULD INCLUDE A SPECIFIC PLAN OF MEASURABLE STUDENT ACADEMIC GOALS.
S - 2094 SUB A H - 6779 SUB A	SENATOR LANZI REPRESENTATIVE COVERSE	AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS – GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT AND FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY REVIEW ACT	THIS ACT WOULD ESTABLISH THE GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT AND FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY REVIEW ACT. IT WOULD ALSO INCREASE THE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS OF GOVERNMENT AGENCIES REGARDING OUTSIDE CONTRACTS OR AGREEMENTS VALUED AT \$100,000 OR MORE. THIS ACT WOULD TAKE EFFECT UPON PASSAGE.	THIS LEGISLATION SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASES THE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS AND THE WORKLOAD FOR THE OFFICE OF FINANCE REGARDING OUTSIDE CONTRACTS OR AGREEMENTS VALUED AT \$100,000 OR MORE.
S - 2142 AA H - 6749 AA	SENATOR GALLO REPRESENTATIVE CODERRE	RELATING TO SEPARATION OF POWERS - EDUCATION	THIS ACT WOULD REMOVE LEGISLATORS AND LEGISLATIVE APPOINTEES FROM CERTAIN BOARDS RELATING TO EDUCATION, IN ACCORD WITH THE RECENT AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION. THIS ACT WOULD ALSO ADD CERTAIN REPORTING REQUIREMENTS AND OTHER DUTIES FOR THESE BOARDS. THIS ACT WOULD TAKE EFFECT UPON PASSAGE.	THE BOARD OF REGENTS, WITHIN 90 DAYS AFTER THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR, SHALL SUBMIT A COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR, THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE OF ITS ACTIVITIES DURING

S - 2312 AA H - 7536 AA	SENATOR ISSA REPRESENTATIVE LEWISS	AN ACT RELATING TO OPEN MEETINGS	THIS ACT WOULD ALLOW COMMITTEES TO ADD ITEMS, SUBMITTED IN WRITING BY A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC, TO AN AGENDA DURING THE PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION FOR DISCUSSION AND INFORMATIONAL PROPOSES ONLY. THIS ACT WOULD TAKE EFFECT UPON PASSAGE.	THE FISCAL YEAR. INFORM SCHOOL DISTRICTS OF THIS CHANGE IN PROCEDURE FOR SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDAS. THIS LEGISLATION ALLOWS SCHOOL COMMITTEES TO ADD ITEMS, SUBMITTED IN WRITING BY A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC, TO AN AGENDA DURING THE PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION FOR DISCUSSION AND INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES.
S - 2370 SUB A H - 7305 SUB A	SENATOR ISSA REPRESENTATIVE SAN BENTO	AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT – LICENSING AND MONITORING OF CHILD CARE PROVIDERS	THIS ACT WOULD PERMIT CHILD DAY CARE PROGRAMS IN AN ELEMENTARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL WITHOUT THE NECESSITY OF A SEPARATE FIRE, BUILDING, OR RADON INSPECTION CERTIFICATE. THIS ACT WOULD TAKE EFFECT UPON PASSAGE.	
BILL #	SPONSOR	TITLE	EXPLANATION	RIDE RESPONSIBILITIES
S - 2489 SUB A H - 7841	SENATOR PAIVA-WEED REPRESENTATIVE MUMFORD	AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION – TRANSPORTATION OF PUPILS BEYOND CITY AND TOWN LIMITS	THIS ACT WOULD REQUIRE THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND THE RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY TO DEVELOP A PLAN FOR THE CREATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A STATEWIDE SYSTEM OF TRANSPORTATION FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AND FOR ALL STUDENTS INCLUDING THOSE WITHOUT SPECIAL NEEDS TO AND FROM SCHOOL. THIS ACT WOULD TAKE EFFECT UPON PASSAGE.	THIS ACT DIRECTS RIDE (WORKING WITH DOA & RIPTA) TO PLAN, CREATE AND IMPLEMENT A STATEWIDE SYSTEM OF TRANSPORTATION FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS. RIDE WILL LOOK TO RIPTA TO HELP PROVIDE THE DIRECTION AND RESOURCES NEEDED TO COMPLETE THE TRANSPORTATION PLAN. RIDE WILL ALSO CONDUCT A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF ALL CURRENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

				IN RI SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN ORDER TO DEVELOP A PLAN FOR THE CREATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A STATEWIDE SYSTEM OF TRANSPORTATION OF ALL STUDENTS. THIS PLAN SHALL BE COMPLETED, WITH A REPORT TO THE GA BY 1/15/07.
S - 2496 H - 7515	SENATOR BLAIS REPRESENTATIVE DAVEY	AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION – ADULT EDUCATION COMMISSION	THIS ACT WOULD REPEAL THE CHAPTER ON THE ADULT EDUCATION COMMISSION. THIS ACT WOULD TAKE EFFECT UPON PASSAGE.	
S - 2526 SUB A H - 7029	SENATOR LANZI REPRESENTATIVE SHANLEY	AN ACT RELATING TO STATE PURCHASES	THIS ACT WOULD EXEMPT THE PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION FROM THE PROVISIONS OF COMPETITIVE BIDDING LAW FOR RESEARCH OR RESEARCH RELATED ACTIVITY FUNDED WITH FEDERAL FUNDS OR OTHER THIRD-PARTY FUNDS. THIS ACT WOULD TAKE EFFECT UPON PASSAGE.	
S - 2531 H - 6853 SUB A	SENATOR DOYLE REPRESENTATIVE MCNAMARA	AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION	THIS ACT WOULD DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION, WORKING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION, TO ESTABLISH A STATEWIDE PURCHASING SYSTEM FOR PRODUCTS AND SERVICES PERTAINING TO RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS, WHICH WOULD INCLUDE TELECOMMUNICATIONS, WIRELESS SERVICES, AND A GENERAL INSURANCE PRODUCTS AND SERVICES. THIS ACT WOULD TAKE EFFECT UPON PASSAGE.	THIS ACT PROVIDES THAT RIDE, ALONG WITH DOA, SHALL DEVELOP A PLAN FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT & IMPLEMENTATION OF A STATEWIDE PURCHASING SYSTEM FOR ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN RI
S - 2667 H - 6732	SENATOR RUGGERIO REPRESENTATIVE MOURA	AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR – ARBITRATION	THIS ACT WOULD ALLOW A LABOR ARBITRATOR TO CONSIDER THE EXISTENCE OF PAST PRACTICE WHEN THE UNION CONTRACT CONTAINS A PROVISION THAT PRESERVES EXISTING RIGHTS, BENEFITS OR PRACTICES BETWEEN THE PARTIES. THIS ACT WOULD TAKE EFFECT UPON PASSAGE.	VETOED BY THE GOVERNOR
S - 2696 SUB B H - 6968	SENATOR SOSNOWSKI REPRESENTATIVE MCNAMARA	AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION	THIS ACT WOULD PROHIBIT THE SALE AND DISTRIBUTION OF CERTAIN BEVERAGES BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2007 AND FOOD ITEMS BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2008 AT ALL ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE AND JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOLS AND WOULD REQUIRE THE SALE AND DISTRIBUTION OF HEALTHY BEVERAGES AND SNACKS. THIS ACT WOULD TAKE EFFECT UPON PASSAGE.	INFORM THE SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAT: (1) ALL RI ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE & JUNIOR HS ARE REQUIRED TO OFFER “HEALTHY BEVERAGES” EFFECTIVE 1/1/07, (2) “HEALTHIER SNACKS” EFFECTIVE 1/1/08
S - 2706	SENATOR PERRY	AN ACT RELATING TO	THIS ACT WOULD PROVIDE THAT EVERY INSURANCE	

SUB A AA		HEALTH AND SAFETY	POLICY WHICH PROVIDES MEDICAL COVERAGE FOR PHYSICIAN SERVICES IN A PHYSICIAN'S OFFICE, AND EVERY POLICY WHICH PROVIDES MAJOR MEDICAL OR SIMILAR COMPREHENSIVE-TYPE COVERAGE, WOULD INCLUDE COVERAGE FOR SMOKING CESSATION TREATMENT. THIS ACT WOULD TAKE EFFECT UPON PASSAGE.	
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BILL #	SPONSOR	TITLE	EXPLANATION	RIDE RESPONSIBILITIES
S - 2750	SENATOR GIBBS	AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONALS – INTERPRETERS FOR THE DEAF	THIS ACT WOULD MAKE VARIOUS CHANGES REGARDING THE LICENSING REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERPRETERS FOR THE DEAF. THIS ACT WOULD TAKE EFFECT UPON PASSAGE.	
S - 2836 H - 7207 SUB A	SENATOR BREENE REPRESENTATIVE SULLIVAN	AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION – ESTABLISHMENT OF REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS	THIS ACT WOULD CHANGE THE TIME OF THE EXETER-WEST GREENWICH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING FROM EIGHT O'CLOCK (8:00) TO SEVEN O'CLOCK (7:00) P.M. THIS ACT WOULD TAKE EFFECT UPON PASSAGE.	
S - 2879	SENATOR CICCIONE	AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT – OPEN MEETINGS	THIS ACT WOULD AUTHORIZE THE USE OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION OR TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS AS REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION FOR A MEMBER OF A PUBLIC BODY WHO HAS A DISABILITY. THIS ACT WOULD TAKE EFFECT UPON PASSAGE.	
S - 2990 SUB A AS AMENDED H - 7620 SUB A AA	SENATOR PICHARDO REPRESENTATIVE PACHECO	AN ACT RELATING TO YOUTH – YOUTH COMMISSION	THIS ACT WOULD CREATE A COMMISSION TO EXAMINE LEGISLATION RELATING TO YOUTH AND WOULD REQUIRE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO HAVE AN OPINION FROM THE COMMISSION PRIOR TO ACTING ON THE LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL. THIS ACT WOULD TAKE EFFECT UPON PASSAGE.	
S - 3012 H - 8012	SENATOR GALLO REPRESENTATIVE AJELLO	AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION	THIS ACT WOULD AMEND THE DATE THE JOINT COMMITTEE ISSUES ITS REPORT TO NO LATER THAN MARCH 15, 2007. THIS ACT WOULD TAKE EFFECT UPON PASSAGE.	
S - 3050 SUB A AS AMENDED	SENATOR PAIVA-WEED	AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION – PROPERTY TAXES	THIS ACT WOULD REDUCE THE PERCENTAGE INCREASE A CITY OR TOWN MAY INCREASE PROPERTY TAXES OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR FROM FIVE AND ONE HALF PERCENT (5.5%) TO FIVE AND ONE QUARTER PERCENT (5.25%) IN 2008 AND TO FOUR PERCENT (4%) IN 2013 AND WOULD INCLUDE PRE-BUDGET CONSULTATION REGARDING SCHOOL BUDGETS. THIS ACT	COMPREHENSIVE TAX REFORM BILL. RIDE WILL INFORM SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN FY 08 SCHOOL CMTE BUDGETS SHALL NOT EXCEED 105.25% OF THE TOTAL OF MUNICIPAL FUNDS

			WOULD TAKE EFFECT UPON PASSAGE, EXCEPT THAT SECTION 6 WOULD TAKE EFFECT ON JANUARY 1, 2007.	APPROPRIATED BY THE CITY OR TOWN FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES FOR FY 07 (EXCLUSIVE OF STATE & FEDERAL AID) THE % GOES DOWN EVERY YEAR BY .25% UNTIL 2013. IN FY 13, SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUDGETS SHALL NOT EXCEED 104% OF THE TOTAL MUNICIPAL FUNDS APPROPRIATED FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES FOR FY 12.
S - 3101 SUB A AS AMENDED	SENATOR FOGARTY	AN ACT RELATING TO REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS	AN ACT IN AMENDMENT OF CHAPTER 109 OF THE PUBLIC LAWS OF 1958 ENTITLED "AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE FORMATION OF A REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT EMBRACING THE TOWNS OF FOSTER AND GLOCESTER"	
S - 3164	SENATOR BREENE	AN ACT RELATING TO REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS	AN ACT IN AMENDMENT OF AND IN ADDITION TO CHAPTER 55 OF THE PUBLIC LAWS, 1958, ENTITLED "AN ACT IN AMENDMENT OF AND IN ADDITION TO CHAPTER 55 OF THE GENERAL LAWS OF 1958 AUTHORIZING THE TOWNS OF CHARLESTOWN, RICHMOND AND HOPKINTON, TO JOIN A REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, INCORPORATING SAID REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, AND PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS, CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF A REGIONAL SCHOOL SYSTEM FOR THE JOINT USE OF THE PARTICIPATING TOWNS, WITHIN SAID REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ESTABLISHED BY THIS ACT AS AMENDED"	
BILL #	SPONSOR	TITLE	EXPLANATION	RIDE RESPONSIBILITIES
S - 3166	SENATOR BREENE	AN ACT RELATING TO REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS	AN ACT IN AMENDMENT OF AND IN ADDITION TO CHAPTER 286 OF THE PUBLIC LAWS, 1986, ENTITLED "AN ACT IN AMENDMENT OF AND IN ADDITION TO CHAPTER 55 OF THE PUBLIC LAWS, 1958, ENTITLED 'AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWNS OF CHARLESTOWN, RICHMOND AND HOPKINTON, TO JOIN A REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, INCORPORATING SAID REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, AND PROVIDING	

			FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS, CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF A REGIONAL SCHOOL SYSTEM FOR THE JOINT USE OF THE PARTICIPATING TOWNS, WITHIN SAID REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ESTABLISHED BY THIS ACT,' AS AMENDED”	
H - 7066	REPRESENTATIVE NAUGHTON	AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION	THIS ACT WOULD CREATE A PROGRAM TO STRUCTURE THE GOVERNANCE OF THE RHODE ISLAND VISION EDUCATION AND SERVICES PROGRAM. THIS ACT WOULD TAKE EFFECT UPON PASSAGE.	THIS ACT ADDS TO THE EXISTING POWERS OF THE BOR THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF SUPERVISION, ADMINISTRATION AND CONTROL OF THE RIVESP. THE BOR MUST ANNUALLY REPORT TO THE GA. THIS ACT WILL REQUIRE THE BOR TO ESTABLISH INITIAL QUALIFICATIONS & TERM OF OFFICES OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.
H - 7588	REPRESENTATIVE LALLY	AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT – OPEN MEETINGS	THIS ACT WOULD DEFINE OPEN FORUM AS A MEETING TO INCLUDE THE PUBLIC. IT WOULD PERMIT, BUT NOT REQUIRE, MEMBERS OF A PUBLIC BODY TO RESPOND TO COMMENTS MADE BY THE PUBLIC AT AN OPEN FORUM. THIS ACT WOULD TAKE EFFECT UPON PASSAGE.	INFORM SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAT THIS LEGISLATION DEFINES OPEN FORUM AS A MEETING TO INCLUDE THE PUBLIC. THE BILL PERMITS, BUT DOSE NOT REQUIRE, MEMBERS OF A PUBLIC BODY TO RESPOND TO COMMENTS MADE BY THE PUBLIC AT AN OPEN FORUM.